

the size of the suitable holding was named. When the first public land act was passed there was not 5,000,000 of people in this country; today there are 65,000,000. Under those laws the whole Western territory has been settled, and no man has been heard to complain that he could not obtain more than 320 acres of land. I do not mean to infer by any resolution that the members of legislatures are dishonorable. I have a great deal of faith in the honesty of members of legislatures; but I also have much confidence in the shrewdness of men who swarm around these bodies for the purpose of getting something out of the public.

Look at the 9000 farms of this beautiful Territory. According to the United States census they have only an average of 27 acres. Look at the State of California, its great over grown farms that are the blight of the State. Had they pursued the course of Utah the 1,000,000 population would have been 3,000,000. I know of one man who owns 258,000 acres. The State is plastered over with giant land grants of this monstrous sort. I am in favor of irrigation, but not of having it said by Congress, "You are in favor of small farms, of high improvement, yet you want to remove all limitations from land holders." I hope you will pause and consider this, and if my suggestion is not to your liking, make one that is.

After considerable debate Mr. Estee's amendment was carried.

The Newland's substitute was then put and failed.

The resolutions as amended were then read and adopted.

The committee of the whole reported. And the congress adopted the first resolution.

On a motion to strike out the second resolution a vote by delegations was ordered, each delegation casting thirty votes. The vote was as follows:

California, 22 no, 8 yes; Colorado, 30 no; Idaho, 26 yes, 4 no; Kansas, 30 yes; Montana, 30 yes; Nebraska, 21 yes, 9 no; Nevada, 22 yes, 8 no; New Mexico, 30 no; Oregon, 25 no, 5 yes; South Dakota, 30 yes; Texas, 30 no; Utah, 30 no; Washington, —; Wyoming, 30 yes. Total, 202 yes, 188 no. The resolution to strike out prevailed.

A motion was then put to strike out the third resolution and carried without division.

The resolution which was adopted reads:

Resolved, That this congress is in favor of granting in trust, upon such conditions as shall serve the public interest, to the States and territories needful of irrigation, all lands now a part of the public domain within such States and territories, excepting mineral lands, for the purpose of developing irrigation, to render the lands now arid fertile and capable of supporting a population.

Mr. Irish then proposed a resolution in behalf of Kansas, which after some amendment was adopted without debate as follows:

Resolved, That it is justly due the settlers of Montana, the Dakotas, Wyoming, Nebraska, Colorado, Kansas and Oklahoma, who have paid into the United States treasury millions of dollars in the purchase of these lands, and have expended other millions in fruitless attempts to farm them without irrigation,

that a portion of the funds so paid be expended in securing to such lands the benefits of irrigation.

Hon. Platt Rogers of Colorado proposed the following, which was carried:

Resolved, That it is the sense of this convention that the committee selected to propose and present to Congress the memorial of this convention respecting public lands, should ask as a preliminary to the session of all the lands in the Territories in accordance with the resolutions of the convention, a liberal grant to said Territories and to the States to be formed therefrom of the public lands to be devoted to public school purposes.

Mr. Goodwin offered the following resolution:

Resolved, That this Congress heartily endorse the irrigation work of the Agricultural department of the national government in the collection and dissemination of information; especially its admirable progress reports covering the whole field of irrigation development.

Mr. Mills insisted that a request for further appropriations be added. The amendment was made and the resolution passed.

A recess of five minutes was taken and after order was called, the following committees were reported from the delegations:

COMMITTEE ON MEMORIAL.

California, C. C. Wright; Colorado, Platt Rogers; Idaho, A. D. Foote; Kansas, A. W. Stubbs; Montana, A. C. Botkin; Nebraska, John H. Abbott; New Mexico, D. H. Wenger; Oregon, J. H. Hamilton; South Dakota, J. H. Bailey; Texas, Walter Gresham; Utah, W. H. King; Wyoming, Frank Bond; Nevada, C. W. Irish.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE.

California, Ike Trumbo; Idaho, A. W. Hagar; Kansas J. W. Gregory; Montana, W. A. Clark; Nebraska, John Stephenson; New Mexico, W. H. Parr; Oregon, J. B. Huntington; South Dakota, J. H. Bailey; Texas, Morgan Jones; Wyoming, Elwood Meade; Nevada, Francis G. Newlands; Utah, W. E. Smythe.

On motion of Mr. Newlands, Governor Thomas was added to the committee on memorial.

The question of going to Lehi, Provo and Garfield was called up by Mr. Jones of Provo. Several members were anxious to go, but wanted the two trips to be confined to one day.

Mr. Hollister, of Salt Lake, offered as a compromise that the Garfield invitation be accepted, and the other dispensed with. He thought it would be a very tedious and dusty trip anyway.

The final agreement was settled upon to go to the Lehi sugar works and the Provo woolen mills this morning at 8 o'clock, and returning take the train at 3:30 this afternoon for Garfield.

An invitation was also accepted from Ogden to visit the Bear River canal on Saturday morning.

The congress then adjourned sine die.

The California delegation met at the Knutsford last night and decided to advise the California board of trade to maintain a permanent exhibit of fruit products in Salt Lake City.

The following letter addressed to Mr. Stephens of the Choral society explains itself:

Dear Sir—At the conclusion of the Irrigation Congress the California delegation

found in its treasury an unused balance of \$25 which by vote of the delegation at a meeting held in the Knutsford hotel we were directed to contribute to the treasury of the Choral society with the compliments of the California delegation.

M. M. ESTEE, Chairman.

J. W. NANCE, Secretary.

MR. ASTOR AND HIS MONEY.

WILLIAM WALDORF ASTOR has sent word to the country from which he receives a daily income of \$23,000 that its government and society are not to his liking and that hereafter he wishes to be regarded as a citizen of London. We know of no law but the moral law of gratitude to interfere with William Waldorf Astor or any other American plutocrat in renouncing allegiance to this country.

So far as the person or genius of these men are concerned the country would never miss them. In Mr. Astor's case particularly is this true. We doubt if from his entire life a single act could be cited from which his country, his State or his neighbors have received an iota of substantial benefit. The best energies of his existence have been spent in fluttering about under gilded chandeliers, among the gauzy butterfly denizens of New York, himself the gauziest of them all. His business is that of a collector of rents. There is nothing in his business existence but rents.

It has been estimated that \$23,000 pass through his accounts daily as net proceeds, and it is virtually an aggregate of the tributes paid by producers in the way of rents, and all of this ponderous income which was not required to keep himself and family dressed and entertained has gone for the purchase of more tenements that he might collect more rents. He never was known to dispose of a foot of land. It has been a tradition in the family to buy everything in sight that required no labor or risk to make it valuable and to sell nothing. This sort of an occupation has not rendered the Astor family especially valuable to this country for the good it has derived or may derive from their genius for making money. But in the wealth they have accumulated it has some interest, and when the head of the household declares that he has done with the United States, the people from whom he has achieved his vast riches are naturally interested in the question whether his money, too, has turned English. This country can afford to pay a reasonable tribute to its anglo-manics to get rid of them, but it would not take many of the \$23,000-a-day sort to make the tax a rather serious one for business.

But, to conclude the subject, there is only one moral to be drawn from Astor's announcement of removal from America. It is, that property that will return an income of \$23,000 a day is too much for any one man to be allowed to possess compatibly with the general welfare.

Humboldt calculated the mean level of North America to be 743 feet above the sea, and he found that in 4,500,000 years the whole of North America might be worn down to the sea level.